

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 12148 031137Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00
SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 OMB-01 /063 W
-----009553 031140Z /11

O P 031130Z JUL 78 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9857
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY
USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY
CINC USAREUR HEIDELBERG
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 12148

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, US, GW
SUBJECT: FUNDING FOR GERMAN TANK GUN

REF: STATE 167260 DTG 302323Z JUN 78

1. WE APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S INFORMATION ON THE
LATEST DEVELOPMENT IN THE 120MM GUN MATTER. WE ARE
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UNABLE TO EVALUATE IT. IN DISCUSSIONS HERE YESTERDAY,
SOME CONGRESSIONAL STAFFERS ATTENDING A CONFERENCE
SOUNDED GENERALLY CONFIDENT ABOUT ULTIMATE PROSPECTS FOR
120, DESPITE THIS INFORMATION, BUT DID NOT KNOW DETAILS.

2. THIS MATTER WILL CLEARLY BE A TOPIC IN GERMAN CON-
VERSATIONS WITH SENATOR BYRD ON JULY 5, AND--IF THE

PROSPECTS FOR US ADOPTION OF THE 120MM GUN HAVE BEEN MATERIALLY DIMMED--IT WILL ALSO ARISE PROMINENTLY DURING THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT, BOTH IN HIS OFFICIAL CONVERSATIONS AND IN SUCH PUBLIC APPEARANCES AS THE TOWN MEETING IN BERLIN.

3. WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE DEPARTMENT'S URGENT EVALUATION OF THE SITUATION SO THAT WE MAY RESPOND TO QUESTIONS THAT MAY BE EXPECTED HERE. WE ALSO RECOMMEND THAT THIS EVALUATION BE PASSED TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS/USNATO, WHERE SENATOR BYRD IS NOW VISITING, AND TO AMEMBASSY LONDON, HIS NEXT STOP PRIOR TO BONN. WE ARE REPEATING REFTEL TO BRUSSELS, USNATO, AND LONDON. STOESEL

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Message Attributes

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